

The Economy

Clyde in itself does not have an economy. That is, it does not have a very high degree of independence from the surrounding towns. Most of the people living in and around the Town commute each day to one of the nearby large employment centers for work. Clyde, therefore, is very closely related to Waynesville, Canton, Enka, Asheville, and the Western resort area.

The fact that we are without an economic base is no indication that we would not welcome a manufacturing plant to Clyde. For some time now, an effort has been made to expand our economy. This has been an active but very selective search. Several plants have considered locating here but, as you know, none have moved to Clyde. In all frankness, we have lost to other towns manufacturing firms which would have been a credit to Clyde because we had some deficiency when compared with other towns. Others have been actively discouraged from locating here. We are in good shape now and feel that we can be selective. Plants which would spoil the magnificent natural beauty of Clyde, or which would take advantage of our people either by paying poor wages, seeking handouts in the form of tax waivers, or those with an unstable past and uncertain future are not only unwelcome in Clyde, but are also discouraged from locating here. Let us say again that we are seeking to expand our economic base, but only on a selective basis.

The Population

Although everyone is aware that the 1960 population of Clyde was 680 persons, we know little more than this. To gain a better understanding of the people living here, it